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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

FINKL, Charles W.) Group Art Unit 1742
UNDERYS, Algirdas A.)
Application No.: 10/073,386)
Filing Date: 02/12/2002)
Entitled: METHOD AND APPARATUS)
FOR SOFTENING A SELECTED)
PORTION OF A STEEL OBJECT)
BY HEATING)

Examiner: Ip

REQUEST FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME
Under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(2)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

Respectfully requested is an extension of time for filing a response during the second month following the expiration of a shortened statutory period.

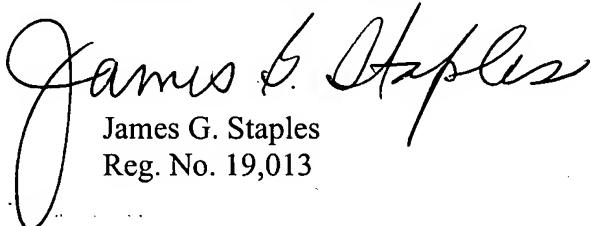
Applicant is a small entity. To cover the fee for the two-month extension, we enclose herewith our check in the amount of \$210.

02/04/2004 WASFAW1 00000105 10073396

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210.00 OP

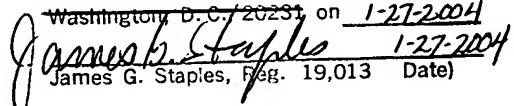
Respectfully submitted,



James G. Staples
Reg. No. 19,013

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(I hereby certify that this correspondence
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addressed to: PO BOX 1450, Alexandria, VA
Comr. of Patents & Trademarks, 22313-1450
Washington, D. C. 20231 on 1-27-2004
James G. Staples, Reg. 19,013 Date)



James G. Staples 1-27-2004
James G. Staples, Reg. 19,013 Date)